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SOUTH KESTEVEN
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE
YEAR 1948

South Kesteven Rural District Council.

Public Health Committee

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Vice-Chairman—

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STAFF OF THE Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	J. A. Galletly, M.A., M.B., B.Chir. (Camb.) D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	Walter A. Chivers, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	James G. Clements, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Assistant Sanitary Inspector	B. F. Larkinson
Shorthand Typist ...	Mrs. J. E. Fisher-Smith

Clerk of the Council ...	J. J. C. Goulder
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SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health and

Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members
of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report and that of your Chief Sanitary Inspector for 1948.

Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	95,061
Population (Registrar General's figures, 1947)	...	...	...	...	...	14,480
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	4,102
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£40,935
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	...	...	...	£171	1s. 8d.	

Vital Statistics (not corrected by Registrar General).

				Over 90	
				M.	F.
Births	...	...	...	97	112
Deaths	...	...	...	50	60
Total number of Births in 1947 — 294 : Males 155, Females 139				209	110
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	—

Causes of Death.

				M.	F.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	—
Cancer	...	...	...	6	7
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	7	9
Heart Disease	...	...	...	15	22
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	13	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	—	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	—	—
Suicide	...	...	...	2	—
Senility	...	...	...	2	5
Accidental Death	...	...	...	1	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	—	3
Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	4	8

Section B. General Provision of Health Services
of the Area.

1948 was a healthy year apart from the epidemics of measles which carried over from 1947 with 339 cases.

The District Nurses continue their excellent work.

The Isolation Hospital remained closed for the greater part of the year. The Sanatorium remained open. The whole Hospital now comes under the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board and it seems certain that it will form an important unit in their hospital scheme.

The shortage of Nurses remains.

Scabies is now only incidental.

Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The Council's Water Scheme has passed from paper to pick and shovel, human and mechanical.

The Council's Sewerage Scheme, emasculated by the Government, is in the Tender stage.

The Refuse Collecting Scheme is working well and is a boon to householders. There are still a few unsightly dumps fed by careless people.

Water samples are taken regularly.

Section D. Housing.

Full details will be found in your Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A detailed report will be found in your Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

More work has been done on Milk and Ice Cream supplies.

The closest co-operation between the various authorities responsible for milk production is essential.

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Diseases under age groups.

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Acute Poliomyelitis
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	—	—
1—2	—	—	—	2	—	—	31	4	—	—	—
2—3	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	5	—	2	—
3—4	1	—	—	2	—	—	49	6	—	—	1
4—5	1	—	—	—	—	—	43	4	—	1	1
5—10	5	—	—	—	—	—	139	6	—	4	—
10—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	25	—	—	4	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
20—35	1	—	—	2	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	1
45—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	3	1	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	8	—	—	7	—	—	339	27	3	13	3
Admitted to Hospital	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

Cancer Deaths.

			Died at home Ages		Died away at Hospitals, Institutions, etc. Ages	
			M.	F.	M.	F.
Breast	...	...	—	34	—	—
Pharynx	...	...	65	—	—	—
Stomach	...	...	72, 80	53	—	—
Bladder	...	...	—	28	—	—
Ovary	...	...	—	38	—	—
Oesophagus	...	...	—	71	66	—
Rectum	...	...	73	—	—	—
Lung	...	...	68	—	—	—
Uterus	...	...	—	47	—	71
Tonsil	...	...	82	—	—	—
Colon	...	...	—	—	55	—
Hepatic Flexure	...	...	—	85	—	—
Fleum	...	...	—	—	—	24
Total number of cases			6	7	2	2

Tuberculosis New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

I wish to thank my fellow officials for their unfailing help and keenness.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. GALLETLY.

Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in Respect of
the Year 1948 for the Rural District of South Kesteven in the
County of (Kesteven) Lincolnshire.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	17	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	49	28	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	66	38	4	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were Found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	2	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	4	—	4	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

No inspections were carried out in respect of Outworkers and no notices were served in connection therewith.

J. A. GALLETTY.
Medical Officer of Health.

SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
41, North Street,
Bourne, Lincs.
May, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the following report regarding the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1948.

1. Statistics.

Total number of inspections carried out ...	...	3372
Number of sanitary works completed ...	...	109
Number of letters and notices despatched ...	...	2155

2. Details of Visits.

Water Supplies ...	32	Building Licences ...	222
Drainage ...	579	Housing Inspections ...	930
Stables and Piggeries ...	5	Infectious Diseases ...	6
Bakehouses ...	18	Cowsheds and Dairies ...	73
Slaughterhouses ...	220	Ice Cream Premises ...	11
Butchers' Shops ...	3	Drain Tests ...	43
Water Samples ...	40	Flood Claims ...	346
Ice Cream Samples ...	10	Factories Act ...	20
Petroleum Acts ...	38	Dirty houses ...	1
Moveable Dwellings ...	5	Salvage ...	3
Rats and Mice ...	2	Food and Drugs Act ...	6
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	41	Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits ...	535
Building Inspections ...	183		

3. Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies.

(a) **Milk.** Inspections were carried out at 73 cowsheds and dairies during the year, and, as a result of informal notices and personal interviews with cowkeepers by your Officers, defects and nuisances found were remedied at many of these premises.

The number of tuberculin-tested herds in the Rural District has increased from 13 to 15, and the number of producers of accredited milk from 4 to 5.

(b) **Ice Cream.** Considerable attention was given during the year to the two premises in the district where ice cream is manufactured, and also to vendors of this commodity who manufacture same in adjoining districts, and whose product is sold either in shops or from vehicles operating in the area.

The two manufacturers have up-to-date premises with modern equipment and it would appear that their failure to obtain Grade I classification regularly when samples have been taken is due to carelessness in the methods of sterilisation of equipment. In one case, as the samples were continually being classified in Grade 4, arrangements were made for Dr. C. C. B. Gilmour of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Peterborough, to visit the factory in question. Dr. Gilmour and myself supervised the entire production of one day's supply of ice-cream, and it is significant to note that, on this occasion, the sample taken of the finished product, upon analysis, was placed in Grade I.

15 samples of ice cream were taken during the year, and the following table gives details of these and of the results of the analyses thereof.

Date	Sample Number	Identification Reference of Manufacturer	Source of Sample	Methylene Blue Test Provisional Grade
20. 7.48	1	M/1. Outside Area	Block (unwrapped)	4
20. 7.48	2	M/2. S.K.R.D.	From Churn	3
20. 7.48	3	M/3. „	From Churn	4
20. 7.48	4	M/3. „	Block (wrapped)	4
14. 9.48	5	M/2. „	From Churn	2
14. 9.48	6	M/3. „	From Churn	4
14. 9.48	7	M/3. „	Block (wrapped)	4
21. 9.48	8	M/3. „	From pasteuriser	1
21. 9.48	9	M/3. „	From homogeniser	2
21. 9.48	10	M/3. „	From homogeniser (2nd sample)	2
21. 9.48	11	M/3. „	From homogeniser (leak pipe)	3
21. 9.48	12	M/3. „	From Cooler	4
21. 9.48	13	M/3. „	From Churn	1
5.10.48	14	M/3. „	From Churn	4
5.10.48	15	M/2. „	From Churn	3

(c) **Meat and Other Foods.** Once again it is gratifying to record that 100 per cent. inspection of all animals passing through the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Bourne has been carried out, in conjunction with the Bourne Urban District Council.

Out of the many controls imposed as a result of the 1939—45 War, that relating to centralised slaughtering must be acknowledged to be for the good of mankind generally, ensuring as it does that the nation's meat supply is free from disease and wholesome. Many improvements are desirable and necessary in connection with the places of slaughter, and the transport, handling and distribution of meat, but the principle of centralised slaughtering is sound from a public health point of view in that greater control can be exercised in relation to the inspection of meat.

The following animals, a total of 2814, were inspected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Bourne, during the year:—

Bulls.	Bullocks.	Cows.	Heifers.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
18	325	168	172	240	1729	162

As a result of such inspections, the following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

1 cow's carcase and all offals	748 lbs. Septicaemia and T.B.
1 bullock's carcase and all offals	444 lbs. T.B. with Emaciation
1 cow's carcase and all offals	579 lbs. T.B. with Emaciation
1 cow's carcase and all offals	740 lbs. T.B. with Dropsy
7 cows' carcasses and all offals	5094 lbs. Gen. T.B.
19 bullocks' carcasses and all offals	13783 lbs. Gen. T.B.
1 heifer's carcase and all offals	402 lbs. Gen. T.B.
2 calves' carcase and all offals	223 lbs. Gen. T.B.
2 pigs' carcasses and all offals	504 lbs. Gen. T.B.
6 cows' carcasses and all offals	3216 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy
1 bullock's carcase and all offals	222 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy
2 heifers' carcasses and all offals	766 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy
14 sheeps' carcasses and all offals	730 lbs. Emaciation & Dropsy
5 sheeps' carcasses and all offals	311 lbs. Gen. Dropsy
1 lamb's carcase and all offals	44 lbs. Gen. Dropsy
4 pigs' carcasses and all offals	524 lbs. Gen. Dropsy
1 pig's carcase and all offals	102 lbs. Emaciation
1 pig's carcase and all offals	64 lbs. Emaciation & Fever
1 calf's carcase and all offals	63 lbs. Fevered
4 pigs' carcasses and all offals	631 lbs. Fevered
9 calves' carcasses and all offals	601 lbs. Joint Ill
1 calf's carcase and all offals	49 lbs. Joint Ill & Dropsy
2 calves' carcasses and all offals	168 lbs. Joint Ill and Peritonitis
1 calf's carcase and all offals	42 lbs. Immaturity
1 cow's carcase and all offals	711 lbs. Septicaemia
4 sheeps' carcasses and all offals	334 lbs. Septicaemia
1 lamb's carcase and all offals	43 lbs. Septicaemia
2 pigs' carcasses and all offals	343 lbs. Septicaemia
1 cow's carcase and all offals	947 lbs. Septic Metritis
1 calf's carcase and all offals	78 lbs. Septic Peritonitis
1 heifer's carcase and all offals	585 lbs. Peritonitis
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	71 lbs. Peritonitis
1 cow's carcase and all offals	679 lbs. Septic Pneumonia
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	109 lbs. Septic Pneumonia
1 bullock's carcase and all offals	736 lbs. Septic Pleurisy
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	79 lbs. Septic Pleurisy
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	103 lbs. Septic Abscesses
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	83 lbs. Septic Mastitis
1 cow's carcase and all offals	601 lbs. Traumatic Pericarditis
4 pigs' carcasses and all offals	371 lbs. Acute Swine Erysipelas
1 pig's carcase and all offals	86 lbs. Erysipelas
1 pig's carcase and all offals	272 lbs. Swine Erysipelas

1 bullock's carcase and all offals	625 lbs. Pyaemia
3 calves' carcasses and all offals	198 lbs. Pyaemia
1 cow's carcase and all offals	837 lbs. Saproaemia
1 cow's carcase and all offals	646 lbs. Hydraemia
1 cow's carcase and all offals	657 lbs. Moribund
2 bullocks' carcasses and all offals	1100 lbs. Moribund
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	106 lbs. Moribund
1 heifer's carcase and all offals	682 lbs. Moribund
1 pig's carcase and all offals	123 lbs. Moribund
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	90 lbs. Injuries
1 sheep's carcase and all offals	81 lbs. Injuries and Bruising
Parts of carcasses and various offals of all food animals	13072 lbs. Various Diseases too numerous to record individually.

The following "cottagers" pigs were surrendered:—

2 pigs' carcasses and all offals	694 lbs. Gen. T.B.
----------------------------------	--------------------

Total weight of unsound food voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

24 tons	12 cwts.	3 qrs.	4 lbs.	as compared with
20 tons	19 cwts.	1 qr.	11 lbs.	for the previous year.

The following table gives details of carcasses inspected and condemned, and the percentages of the total number of carcasses inspected which were found to be affected with (1) diseases other than tuberculosis and (2) tuberculosis.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding			Sheep and	
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	515	168	240	1729	162
Number inspected ...	515	168	240	1729	162
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	9	13	18	33	19
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	170	53	2	169	66
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis...	35.44%	39.28%	8.33%	11.10%	52.47%
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	21	10	2	0	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	119	36	0	0	13
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis...	25.74%	27.38%	0.08%	—	10.49%

4. Housing.

On account of the fact that the Department was handicapped for the greater part of the year due to changes in and depletion of staff, it is to be regretted that work in connection with the Rural Housing Survey had to be curtailed. Another factor was that more urgent and pressing duties had to be carried out, consequently the Rural Housing Survey was one of the routine jobs which had to be temporarily discontinued for a time. It is anticipated, however, that we shall make up much of the lee-way during 1949 and that the Survey will be nearing completion by the end of that year.

During 1948, 168 houses were inspected and categorised, and the following table gives details of these, together with an accumulative statistical summary of the details obtained to date.

Rural Housing Survey, 1948.

Annual Preaching Survey, 1948										
Village			Categorisation of Houses					Premises	Total	
			1	2	3	4	5	Not Categorised	Houses Inspected	
Kirkby										
Underwood	-		1	—	27	11	1	—	40	
Rippingale	-	-	—	2	56	—	4	2	64	
Swinstead	-	-	2	—	61	—	1	—	64	
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TOTALS	-	-	3	2	144	11	6	2	168	
Plus previous										
inspections	-		175	84	1126	164	460	57	2066	
<hr/>										
Totals to the 31st										
December,										
1948	-	-	-	178	86	1270	175	466	59	2234

The Survey continues to reveal the low standard generally of housing conditions in the district and shows how much rural housing has been neglected in the past. In common with many other rural districts, the difficulties in having repairs carried out during the last ten years due to shortage of labour and materials, coupled with the present day high cost of housing repair work, added to the fact that many rural workers' cottages were in poor state of repair in 1939, points without question to the fact that the Council has a heavy housing programme to face in replacing approximately one-fifth of the houses in the area which are fit only for demolition by building new houses, and in bringing up to a decent standard over 50 per cent. of the remainder which require major works of reconstruction and repair.

Unless financial assistance is given to owners of rural cottages to carry out these major works of reconstruction, the financial burden with which they will be faced in so doing will without a doubt put a brake on progress. One feels, also, that, with the present day high cost of housing repairs, a revision of rents is inevitable and must be allowed to owners of properties.

5. Drainage.

It is gratifying to record that the Minister of Health has now been able to give approval for the Council to proceed with the

provision of new Sewage Disposal Schemes for the villages of Horbling, Billingborough, Baston, Langtoft, Market Deeping and Deeping St. James and it is hoped that a commencement will be made in these villages during 1949. On the other hand, it is to be deprecated that the Corby Scheme has had to be deferred on account of the high cost per house. The outfall of the sewers in this village is in a shocking condition, entailing as it does the discharge of crude sewage into the River Glen, with the consequent destruction of fish in the River and the serious danger to stock drinking from same further along its course. The needs of Corby for modern sewage disposal works are no less urgent than those of the other villages for which approval has been given, and it is to be hoped that the Minister of Health will reconsider his decision, notwithstanding the high cost per house, in the near future.

When the Schemes for Billingborough, Horbling, Baston, Langtoft, Market Deeping and Deeping St. James are completed, it will mean that approximately 4,900 persons or 34.5 per cent. of the total population of the area will be able to enjoy the amenities resulting from main drainage.

The many foul sewer dykes in the remaining 28 villages continue to be the source of nuisances arising therefrom and until such time as the Council is in a position financially to remedy these nuisances by the provision of up-to-date sewage disposal schemes, nothing can be done other than to temporarily alleviate such nuisances by periodical cleaning out of the dykes in question. It can be foreseen that, with the provision of a piped water supply to every village in the district, more and more householders will wish to have the amenities of a bathroom and water closet. Consequently the nuisances at present existing in the many sewer dykes in the area will be aggravated.

Many of the old brick and stone culverts taking sewage in the various villages have had to have periodic attention during the year either on account of their becoming choked or because they had broken in, and your Officers get little satisfaction in effecting temporary remedies by having same patched up knowing only too well that such sewers are antiquated, badly constructed and inadequate for their purpose and that the only satisfactory solution is to provide new sewerage systems and sewage disposal schemes.

I would again draw attention to the lack of satisfactory sewage disposal systems at Morton and Thurlby, two of the larger villages in the district, and strongly advise co-operation with the Bourne Urban District Council in providing a joint sewage disposal works for the Urban District and for the two Rural Parishes.

During the year, the Department was responsible for the construction of considerable lengths of new sewers and drains amounting in total length to 1678 yards, in connection with the conversion of 83 Nissen huts and 14 Orlit huts into temporary dwellings at the former aerodrome at Folkingham. Most of the new sewers were connected to existing sewers discharging into modern sewage disposal works at this Aerodrome, which works have now been taken

over by the Council. In two instances, however, it was found necessary, on account of lack of fall, to drain two groups of hutments into septic tanks. The conversion of these hutments, which would not have been looked on favourably by your Sanitary Officers in normal times but which has been forced upon the Council owing to the really urgent need for providing homes for ex-Servicemen and their wives, and others, who have married during and since the war years, has helped to alleviate many cases of overcrowding brought about by the paucity of new houses.

Improvement schemes on parish watercourses were carried out in 3 villages during the year, amounting in total length to $53\frac{3}{4}$ chains of parish dykes cleansed at a total cost of £51 2s. 6d. and annual roding of other watercourses was carried out in 6 parishes.

6. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The collection and disposal of household refuse and the collection of waste paper continues to function satisfactorily and the steadily decreasing number of complaints of non-collection are remedied upon receipt of same by the Department.

Each village in the area is visited once per fortnight and refuse is collected from containers placed at the kerb-side by householders. Refuse is disposed of by tipping at three refuse pits situated at the north, south and west ends of the district.

Waste paper is brought back to the Council's Depot at Bourne and is sorted there and baled for subsequent dispatch to Paper Mills. Details of waste paper, cardboard, etc. collected and sold during the year are as follows:—

Materials	Weight			Cash realised		
	Tons	cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
PAPER, etc.						
(a) Cardboard ...	8	18	84	56	19	6
(b) Mixed Waste ...	5	7	56	34	5	3
(c) Magazines & Books	6	0	56	70	15	10
(d) Newsprint ...	1	15	84	23	13	8
(e) Selected Waste ...	1	18	0	13	6	0
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TOTALS ...	24	0	56	199	0	3

Now that the Council has purchased a new and larger trailer for salvage collection, it is anticipated that the sale of waste paper will be increased, and the money derived from this source will help to offset the cost of refuse collection.

7. Water Supplies.

During the year, a commencement was made by the Contractors, engaged to carry out the Council's new Water Schemes, but progress was slow at first on account of the difficulty encountered by the Contractors in engaging and retaining labour, and also on account of the non-delivery of special fittings required.

It is hoped that the new Schemes will be completed during the next two years, and, as a result thereof, 95 per cent. of all the properties in the Rural District will be able to take a piped supply of pure drinking water from the new mains.

The three new major Schemes for the north, south and west

areas of the district, will replace the existing fifteen separate water installations owned by the Council. Many of these fifteen small installations have proved to be most unsatisfactory in the past on account of their insufficiency of supply, breakdowns and intermittent pollution.

Your Public Health Officers continue to take samples from the existing water installations and from private bores, wells, etc., and the details of the results found upon analysis are as follows:—

WATER SAMPLES.

From Council's Installations	21
(a) Number found to be satisfactory	13
(b) Number found to be polluted	8
From private bores, wells, etc.	19
(a) Number found to be satisfactory	2
(b) Number found to be polluted	17

It will be noted from the above figures that 8 out of 21 samples, or 38 per cent., taken from the Council's installations were found to be polluted, and that, in the case of samples taken from private bores, wells, etc. 17 out of 19, or 89 per cent., were found to be polluted.

* Where pollution was found to exist in the Council's supplies, warning notices were posted in the villages concerned drawing the attention of the residents to such fact and strongly advising them to boil all water used for drinking purposes. With regard to pollution of private supplies, notices were served upon the owners requesting them either to take a supply from the Council's mains, where possible, or to take the necessary action to remedy the pollution or to provide an alternative supply where the Council's water is not available.

The water supply of the area cannot be considered to be generally satisfactory as to quality in view of the results obtained from the 40 samples taken, 25 of which were found to be polluted. In the case of the Council's own water installations, in addition to pollution of certain supplies, there is also the added inconvenience caused at times to the general public through breakdowns of the pumping plants, some of which are not efficient.

Details of the number of dwelling-houses supplied from public water mains (a) direct to houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes, are as follows:—

	Direct.	Standpipe.
Aslackby and Laughton	25	32
Barholm and Stowe	7	7
Baston	89	—
Billingborough	93	84
Braceborough and Wilsthorpe ...	13	4
Bytham, Castle	80	45
Bytham, Little	25	50
Careby, Aunby, Holywell ...	6	—
Carlby	—	—

Addenda

* Of the eight samples taken from the Council's own water installations which were found to be polluted, six were taken from the Spring Wells at Billingborough, one from the bore at Stainfield and one from the Swayfield Wind Pump Supply.

The pollution at Billingborough was due to the fact that the water level at the Council's bore had dropped, which necessitated the pumping of water from the Spring Wells into the Council's water mains. Six samples of water were taken from taps at various points and also from different parts of the Spring Wells. When all the samples were found to be polluted, immediate steps were taken to chlorinate this water until the time when it was found possible again to use the Council's own supply from the Bore.

A repeat sample from the Bore at Stainfield was found to be satisfactory as were further samples, taken subsequently, from this source.

The Swayfield public supply continued to be polluted, as shown by samples taken from time to time, and warning notices advising the parishioners to boil all water used for drinking purposes from this supply, have been kept posted in the village, and these notices will be renewed from time to time until the Council's new Water Scheme for this part of the District has been completed and is in operation.

Corby	104	62
Counthorpe and Creeton	16	6
Deeping St. James	232	134
Deeping, Market	261	6
Deeping, West	38	16
Dowsby	13	22
Dunsby	—	—
Edenham	—	—
Folkingham	69	61
Greatford	10	11
Hacconby	51	3
Horbling	15	—
Irnham	—	—
Kirkby Underwood	17	14
Langtoft	68	5
Morton	154	76
Pointon and Sempringham	12	13
Rippingale	63	17
Swayfield	32	8
Swinstead	9	52
Tallington	30	14
Thurlby	115	37
Toft, Lound and Manthorpe	9	—
Uffington	39	21
Witham-on-the-Hill	—	—
Totals	1695	800

Bridge End, Millthorpe, Little Dowsby, Hawthorpe, Bulby, Scottlethorpe, Aunby, Holywell, Lound and Carlby are all small hamlets relying on springs and shallow wells, and having no piped supply. Edenham, though somewhat larger, is supplied by wells, only one of which is said to give a satisfactory yield. (The Council submitted a scheme for the parish of Edenham to the Ministry of Health in 1938, and this was duly approved, but delay arose owing to negotiations with the Kesteven County Council, as to the making of a grant, and the position being still undefined at the outbreak of hostilities, the scheme was deferred).

Elsthorpe, Careby, Toft and Witham-on-the-Hill all have piped supplies of greater or less extent, drawing from bores or springs and delivering to taps or standpipes, a limited number of properties being also connected in one or two of the villages.

Irnham and Grimsthorpe are on Estate Supplies and are fed by means of a pump drawing from a borehole and a spring respectively in the grounds of Irnham Hall and Grimsthorpe Castle. In each instance the pump delivers to a small reservoir from which the water is piped to the big house and to the village.

8. Building Licences.

The investigation of applications for building licences continued to take up a large amount of the time of your Sanitary Officers during the year as will be noted from the fact that 222 visits were

made in connection therewith. Some easement in connection with these duties, however, resulted during the last half of the year, as, from the 1st July, 1948, the "free" allowance permitted in connection with building work to be carried out on dwelling-houses and other properties without licence was raised from £10 to £100 and, in the case of farm buildings, the "free" allowance was raised to £1,000.

The Council's Building Licences Sub-Committee (Councillors C. W. Barrand, E. B. Binns and G. G. Crowson) has also devoted much time to this work, visiting all properties in connection with which applications were received for licences for the expenditure of sums in excess of £100, and the work has proceeded smoothly and satisfactorily. It should be recorded that this Sub-Committee has been of great assistance to your Officers in administering these functions. It was customary, until the 1st July, 1948, for this Sub-Committee to devote one half day or more per fortnight on Building Licensing and the Council's thanks are due to this Sub-Committee for the large amount of time and thought given to this work.

9. Building Inspections.

Despite the restrictions imposed by the Defence Regulations concerning Building Licensing, the Council's Plans Committee, during the past year, has dealt with an average of approximately 24 plans per month, and your Officers have carried out 183 inspections of building works in progress and have examined and tested 43 new drainage systems.

10. The Lord Mayor's National Flood Distress Fund.

Work continued during the year in connection with the investigation of claims for assistance from the Lord Mayor's National Flood Distress Fund and your Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Clements) made 346 visits to various premises in connection therewith.

11. Staff.

I am indebted to your Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector (Mr. J. G. Clements) for his efficient technical assistance during a busy year. I also wish to record my appreciation of the services of Mr. B. F. Larkinson (Assistant Sanitary Inspector) and of those of my shorthand-typist (Mrs. J. E. Fisher-Smith) for her efficient service in the increasing administrative work of the Department.

In conclusion, I would thank, once again, my fellow Officers and Members of the Council for the courtesy and co-operation extended to me during the year in the discharge of the many and varied duties of the Public Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER A. CHIVERS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

